

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending September 17, 2000**. Light rain fell over most of the state, while the Central and South Central regions received significantly more than the others. Row crop harvest is progressing at a rapid pace. Soil moisture was rated 35 percent very short, 44 percent short, and 21 percent adequate.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1999	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Harvested	96	90	93	79	--	--	--	--	--
Cotton	Open Bolls	96	91	96	89	8	23	40	24	5
	Harvested	23	13	19	12					
Rice	Mature	87	63	87	88	0	5	22	52	21
	Harvested	42	23	53	61					
Sorghum	Mature	99	97	100	94	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	92	83	92	74					
Soybeans	Turning Color	93	85	91	79	16	22	32	24	6
	Shedding Leaves	81	70	75	57					
	Harvested	43	34	38	25					
Watermelons	Harvested	100	97	98	--	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Planted	2	0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	38	28	32	29	1	20	40	39	0
Hay (warm season)	Harvested	89	86	91	95	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						4	12	42	36	6
Pasture						29	33	24	13	1

County Agent Comments

“Cotton harvest is off to a pretty good start. Regrowth is a problem in most areas after the showers last weekend. Tight lock bolls are in abundance throughout the county. High cattle prices and poor pasture conditions are causing reduction in cattle herds.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie County

“Scattered showers have given some relief to the long, dry summer. A limited amount of fall seeded crops was planted this week. Cotton harvest has begun with fair to good yields reported. Soybean yields will be below average.”

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss County

“We received between 1 and 2 inches of rain Tuesday and Wednesday of last week. The rains fell extremely nice, but we are still very dry. Early planted ryegrass is germinating, but will need much more rain to survive. Soil moisture is severely lacking. Many producers are waiting for more rain prior to planting cool season grasses. We are still bone dry.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall County

“Fungal diseases continue to affect turfgrass. Fall garden preparations continue. Hardwoods are continuing to show signs of drought stress. Whiteflies are infesting many ornamentals and herbs.”

— Chance McDavid, Harrison County

“Last week we received some showers that stimulated grass growth in pastures and stopped row crop harvest. Cool temperatures have slowed regrowth of pasture and hay forages.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin County

Weather Summary from September 11, 2000 to September 17, 2000 for Mississippi													
District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	93	53	74	75	-1	0.13	-0.64	2	E0.27	85	71	79	0.22
Cleveland	96	49	75			1.13		2	1.28				
Tunica	95	53	76	74	+2	0.76	+0.06	3	0.94	64	51	59	0.22
Extreme/Average	96	49	75	75	0	0.67	-0.10	2	0.83	85	51	69	0.20
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	92	40	71	72	-1	0.55	-0.34	3	0.85	89	68	80	0.19
Memphis	96	54	77	75	+2	0.35	-0.50	1	0.43				
Oxford	92	43	74	73	+1	0.38	-0.55	3	1.13				
Extreme/Average	96	40	74	74	0	0.43	-0.48	2	0.99	89	68	80	0.19
3. Northeast													
Booneville	89	49	74	73	+1	0.24	-0.67	2	1.19				
Corinth	91	63	78	74	+4	0.31	-0.64	2	1.01				
Iuka	89	43	72			0.07		1	1.60				
Pontotoc	90	49	75	74	+1	0.06	-0.91	1	1.11	85	74	80	0.19
Tupelo	93	47	74	75	-1	0.11	-0.75	1	0.72				
Verona	93	48	77			0.98		2	2.72	88	62	79	0.24
Extreme/Average	93	43	75	74	+1	0.30	-0.63	2	1.39	88	62	80	0.20
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	97	57	80	76	+4	0.62	-0.08	3	1.70	95	78	87	
Greenwood	94	44	74	76	-2	0.31	-0.46	2	E0.62				
Rolling Fork	94	51	78	76	+2	0.03	-0.67	1	0.61	99	75	88	0.16
Stoneville	95	51	76	76	0	1.24	+0.46	1	1.75	92	70	81	0.23
Yazoo City	93	54	77	77	0	0.71	-0.06	2	1.56				
Extreme/Average	97	44	77	76	+1	0.58	-0.19	2	1.25	99	70	85	0.19
5. Central													
Carthage	92	47	75	76	-1	3.20	+2.39	1	4.00				
Jackson	92	55	77	77	0	2.41	+1.57	2	2.65				
Winona	91	47	74	74	0	1.91	+1.06	2	2.37				
Extreme/Average	92	47	75	75	0	2.51	+1.68	2	3.01				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville	93	69	81			0.11	-0.73	1	1.14	86	74	80	
Columbus	93	46	75			0.35		1	0.98				
State University	92	51	76	76	0	0.32	-0.59	1	0.92	87	75	82	0.21
Extreme/Average	93	46	78	75	+3	0.26	-0.65	1	1.01	87	74	81	0.21
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	93	55	78			0.47		3	2.41	93	71	84	
Natchez	93	49	77	78	-1	0.15	-0.71	2	1.17				
Oakley	96	44	78	76	+2	1.20	+0.50	1	2.05	96	73	85	
Vicksburg	95	50	78			0.07		1	0.37				
Extreme/Average	96	44	78	77	+1	0.47	-0.37	2	1.50	96	71	85	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	91	53	77	78	-1	1.62	+0.62	2	4.84				
McComb	92	57	78	77	+1	1.94	+0.87	3	4.81				
Extreme/Average	92	53	77	77	0	1.78	+0.84	3	4.83				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						0.97		4	E2.48				
Hattiesburg	94	65	80	78	+2	2.60	+1.74	2	5.68				
Laurel	93	56	78	77	+1	1.13	+0.15	2	1.64				
Meridian	93	51	76	76	0	0.98	+0.14	3	1.58				
Newton	95	50	76	75	+1	0.61	-0.27	2	0.94	89	67	79	0.18
Extreme/Average	95	50	77	77	0	1.33	+0.41	2	2.46	89	67	79	0.18
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	95	54	78			0.28		2	2.19				
Biloxi AFB	97	63	82			0.43		3	7.26				
Gulfport	93	59	80	79	+1	0.01	-1.42	1	6.79				
Pascagoula	94	55	78			0.52		4	3.59				
Poplarville	91	56	78	78	0	0.14	-0.91	3	3.03	91	70	81	0.19
Extreme/Average	97	54	79	79	0	0.28	-1.04	3	4.57	91	70	81	0.19
State	97	40	77	76	+1	0.93	+0.03	2	2.18	99	51	80	0.19

DFN = Departure from Normal.

'E' = Estimated Values.